January 22, 2001

9154 '01 FEB -1 A9:31

To: U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Please grant the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Docket number 98P-0151/CP1.

Animals who are too sick or injured to stand should not be included in the human food chain. They are a small percentage of slaughtered animals so prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. Industry experts estimate that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent them in the first place.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

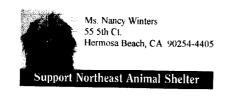
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Report September 1 (1997) 1997 | PERS / 1997